

**MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF SEAT PLEASANT  
REGULAR WORK SESSION  
MONDAY, MAY 7, 2012  
6:00P.M.**

**1. OPENING**

**1.1.1 Call to Order**

Council President Porter called the meeting to order at 6:20p.m.

**1.1.2 Roll Call**

Present: Mayor Eugene Grant (Late), Councilmember Darrell Hardy, Councilmember Johnie L. Higgs, Sr., Councilmember Kelly Porter, Councilmember Gerald R. Raynor, Sr., Councilmember Elenora Simms, Councilmember Aretha Stephenson (Absent), Councilmember Reveral Yeargin

Staff: Robert Ashton, City Treasurer, Vincent Jones, City Administrator, Dashaun N. Lanham, City Clerk, Samuel Prue, Chief of Police

**1.1.3 Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance:**

The invocation was given by Councilmember Higgs

**1.1.4. Approval of Agenda**

It was motioned by Councilmember Yeargin and seconded by Councilmember Hardy to approve the agenda. The motion carried.

**2. PRESENTATIONS:**

**2.1. Richard Longstreth, George Washington University**

- Mr. Longstreth along with three students from his class presented on the history of Seat Pleasant prior to War World II.
- Laura Smith researched the physical analysis of the area from 1953-1963. She stated that Federal Housing Administration approved the building of 220 houses, which was formally called Booker T. Homes in 1953
- She stated that in 1961 Hyland Park was constructed with 192 semi detached units with basements
- She stated that in 1963 Holly Park was constructed with pre fabricated homes and cabana's, which are now known as shed.

- Allen Rivers presented on the extension of roads, parks and utilities. He stated that it was difficult to obtain demographic information from Pepco and WSSC.
- He stated that Seat Pleasant was established in 1931 and in 1946-47 paved a road, which is Martin Luther King, Jr., Highway formerly known as George Washington Parkway. It was established as a Highway in 1970
- He stated that in 1951 the streets were named
- Valerie presented on the demographics of the School. She stated that the school was built and demolished in 1945. It was an all white school. She stated that African American children traveled away to school.
- She stated that in 1955 93 students requested transfer and 52 were accepted. She stated in 1961 Derby Lomax petitioned the Board of Education for children to attend Seat Pleasant Elementary School. She stated in 1973 the school became fully segregated.
- Mr. Longsteth stated that the report will be available electronically. Councilman Yeargin wanted to know if the Chesapeake Trail would be included in the report.

## **2.2. Andre Gore, N 'Put, Inc.**

- Mr. Gore stated that he had fed the homeless in Seat Pleasant on Martin Luther King Jr., Highway.
- He stated that he has insurance and will add the City's name on the insurance to indemnify us on the day of the event. He stated that he would like to host the event on May 28, 2012.
- He stated that they will provide them with other resource information. He stated that they cleaned up after the last event. He said it was organized and there were no incidents.
- Councilman Yeargin stated that the lot was on the District line. Mr. Gore stated that the flyers were distributed in Seat Pleasant.
- Councilwoman Simms requested that Mr. Gore put his request in writing and provide the insurance certificate to the City Administrator, Mr. Jones.
- Mayor Grant stated that it should be an established policy in place for this type of request. He stated that this is a violation of someone's constitutional right.

## **2.3. Chad Williams, Chief Operating Officer, United Communities against Poverty**

- Mr. Williams stated that he would like to engage municipalities to partner with them to eliminate poverty. He stated that they have programs to acquire homes for low and moderate income. He stated that Shepherd's Cove is a

homeless shelter under U-Cap. He stated that it is a 100 bed facility housing women and children.

- Mayor Grant wanted to know what he wanted from the City. He said to enter into a Strategic partnership. He stated that he doesn't need all three municipalities to participate.
- He would like to get started in 30 days. He can prepare and submit the agreement and come back for approval.
- Mayor Grant requested he submit the information to the City Administrator.

#### **2.4. Koko Barnes, Executive Director, Seat Pleasant Development Corporation**

- Ms. Barnes stated that they have completed the training for the Farmers Market and they need three Maryland Farmers. If they do not have three farmers from Maryland, it will prevent them from being a Maryland Farmers Market, which is approved by the State Department of Agricultural.
- She stated the timeline will be June, but we will not have a designation.
- Mayor Grant requested that Ms. Barnes follow up with the farmers that are missing the certification to see what they need to obtain their certification.
- Ms. Barnes stated that she will need a three year permit from the City.
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### **3. REPORTS**

#### **3.1. Mayor's Report**

- Mayor Grant stated that he did not have a report for the month. He apologized to Councilmember Yeargin.

#### **3.2. City Administrator's Report**

- Mr. Jones stated that his report will be brief this month and he wanted to share his reporting time with Sherry Kittrell.
- Mr. Jones thanked everyone for their participation on Seat Pleasant Day.
- He stated that he received notice on the Cable Franchise and he will be meeting with them on Thursday, May 10, 2012.
- Sherry stated that the Seat Pleasant Activity Center will be completed by June 15, 2012.
- She provided the Mayor and Council with the list of classes that will be offered at the Activity Center
- She stated that she carries the load on the kids program, as some of the parents are not able to afford the cost associated with some of the programs.
- She stated that the recreational cards are for ages 6-17 and they are free to Prince George's County residents.

### **Council Committee Reports:**

- 3.3a. Economic Development, Housing and Planning Committee – Councilmember Raynor stated that the committee would like to meet with the full council on May 16, 2012 at 5:30p.m., in a Special Session to review and discuss the Strategy for the Master Plan.
- 3.3e Public Safety & Civil Rights Committee-Councilmember Yeargin stated that the police department has 21 vehicles and 7 are out of service. The committee is recommending the purchase of 4 police cars and one car for Code Enforcement, as their vehicle is out of service.

## **4. NEW BUSINESS**

### **4.1. Approval of Purchase of Police Vehicles**

- Chief Prue stated that the Dodge Chargers will provide a longer durability than the Impala.
- Councilwoman Simms wanted to know why the Chief had chosen the Dodge Charger. Chief Prue stated that it was the recommendation of the other officers in the meeting that he attended. He stated that it was about thirteen officers that made the recommendation.
- Councilwoman Simms wanted to know the cost of the vehicles.
- He stated the difference in the price of the vehicles is \$2,400 less for the Impala
- Chief Prue stated that he would get the specs on both vehicles.
- Councilmember Yeargin stated that he would like to move forward on the Dodge Charger.
- Mayor Grant explained the deliberative process of the committee.

### **4.2. Approval of Purchase of Code Enforcement Vehicle**

- It was the consensus of the Council to table discussion to allow the Chief to get the comparison of the vehicles

### **4.3. Approval of the Street Sweeping Schedule**

- The City Council stated that the City Administrator can approve the schedule.

### **4.4. Approval of Re-Appropriation of Funds for the Purchase of Call-A-Bus**

- It was the consensus of the Council to approve the re-appropriation with amending the language in the Ordinance.

### **4.5. Approval of Re-Appropriation of Funds for the Public Works**

- It was the consensus of the Council to approve the re-appropriation with amending the language in the Ordinance.

### **4.6. Declaring City Property Surplus for Seat Pleasant Activity Center**

- The Mayor and City Council recommended some changes in the Ordinance.

#### **4.7. Discussion of Approval of Strategic Plan**

- The City Council approved the strategic plan for the City of Seat Pleasant

#### **4.8. Discussion of Approval of the Mid-Year Budget Adjustment**

- Mr. Ashton provided the Mayor and Council with samples of the Greenbelt and Bowie budget revisions.
- He stated that it is common practice to amend the budget in the middle of the year.

#### **4.9. Council Committee Meeting Process and Procedures**

- Councilwoman Simms stated we do not have a process or procedure on how things are submitted to the committee. She stated that it should be an ad-hoc committee to create the process and procedures.
- It was the consensus of the council to have an Ad-hoc committee with three members of the council establishing the committee.
- The Ad-Hoc committee members will be Councilmember Higgs, Councilmember Porter and Councilwoman Simms.
- It was motioned by Councilmember Simms and seconded by Councilmember Hardy to establish an Ad-hoc committee to create process and procedures for the Council committee. The motion carried. It was unanimously approved.

#### **4.10. Branding the City for Future Economic Development**

- Councilman Porter stated that we need to follow other municipalities and corporation on branding. He stated more information will be forthcoming.

#### **4.11. Discussion of Council Conference and Convention Limitation**

- Councilman Porter stated that they need to lift the arrangement to allow the Council to attend training specifically for the committee's.

### **5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

#### **5.1. Discussion of Approval of Position Descriptions**

- Councilwoman Simms stated the job descriptions were received several months ago. It was discovered by the Human Resources Officer an error in one of the position descriptions.
- She would like to move forward with the approval of the position descriptions.

### **6. LEGISLATION**

#### **6.1. Ordinance O-12-14 FY2011-2012 Budget Amendment for Public Works**

Ordinance O-12-14 was introduced by the City Council on Monday, May 7, 2012 and the first reading was concluded.

#### **6.2. Ordinance O-12-15 FY2011-2012 Mid-Year Budget Amendment**

Ordinance O-12-15 was introduced by the City Council on Monday, May 7, 2012 and the first reading was concluded.

**6.3. Resolution R-12-15 Approval of Position Descriptions for City Government**

- Resolution R-12-15 was introduced by the City Council on Monday, May 7, 2012. It was motioned by Councilmember Higgs and seconded by Councilmember Simms to approve Resolution R-12-15. The motion carried. It was unanimously approved.

**6.3. Resolution R-12-16 Approval of Strategic Plan for the City of Seat Pleasant**

- Resolution R-12-16 was introduced by the City Council on Monday, May 7, 2012. It was motioned by Councilmember Higgs and seconded by Councilmember Hardy to approve Resolution R-12-16. The motion carried. It was unanimously approved.

**7. ANNOUNCEMENT**

7.1. Walk to Excellence, Saturday, May 12, 2012, Goodwin Park, 9:00am-11:00am LEAVING CITY HALL AT 9:00am

7.2. City Council Budget Review, Saturday, May 12, 2012, Council Chambers from 9:00am-5:00pm

7.3. Public Session, Monday, May 14, 2012, Council Chambers at 7:00pm

7.4. Seat Pleasant Police Department Community Day, Saturday, May 19, 2012, 6264 Central Avenue, Seat Pleasant, MD 20743 from 10:00am-3:00pm

7.5. Ward II Crime Prevention Training, Wednesday, May 23, 2012, Pleasant Homes Community Center, 6810 Greig Street, Seat Pleasant, MD from 6:00pm-8:00pm

**ADJOURN**-The meeting adjourned at 9:50pm

Submitted by,

  
Dashaun N. Lanham  
City Clerk